

# SHINE LOCAL. SAVE BIG.

## Solar for Local Government Buildings

Powered by the Local Government Energy Modernization (L-GEM) Program  
Maryland Energy Administration | FY26 Opportunity

### WHAT IS A SOLAR PROJECT?

Solar projects use photovoltaic (PV) systems to generate clean electricity on-site at municipal facilities and properties. Systems can be installed in a variety of ways, on building rooftops, as ground-mounted arrays on open land or capped landfills, or as solar canopies over parking lots. Projects may involve:

- Feasibility studies and site suitability analysis
- Design and engineering plans for PV systems
- Direct installation of solar tied to building or site loads
- Integration with efficiency upgrades or battery storage

### CONSIDER THE BEST PATH FOR YOU

**Direct ownership:** The municipality owns and operates the solar system, capturing long-term savings and energy benefits.

**Third-Party Ownership:** A developer installs, owns, and maintains the system, while the municipality purchases the electricity at a predictable rate expending little to no upfront costs.

### RESOURCES & SUPPORT

- [L-GEM Grant Program](#)
- [Local Government Climate Action Support Program](#)
- [DGS Decarbonization Planning Contracts](#)
- [Clean Buildings Hub](#)

### NEED HELP?

Contact UMD EFC at  
[efc.climateaction@umd.edu](mailto:efc.climateaction@umd.edu)

Or visit [go.umd.edu/LGEM](https://go.umd.edu/LGEM) for full application materials and timeline.



### MAJOR BENEFITS

- LOWER energy costs
- REDUCE greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- ENHANCE building resilience / energy independence

### GETTING STARTED

01

#### Engage technical support early.

Reach out to the [Maryland Clean Energy Center \(MCEC\)](#) for help assessing project options, scoping, and identifying funding.

02

#### Assess site suitability.

Identify strong solar sites by looking at structural conditions of available roof or land area, while also considering critical factors like shading and orientation.

03

#### Collect utility data.

Gather at least 12 months of electricity usage for proposed sites.

04

#### Define solar projects scope.

Work with MCEC or your technical partner to outline system size, expected production, costs, and whether to pair solar with efficiency or storage.

05

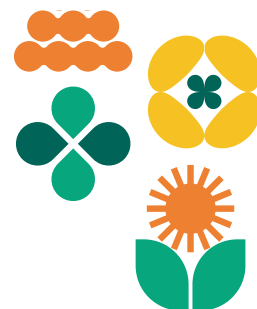
#### Decide ownership approach.

Determine whether direct ownership or a PPA best fits your capacity and goals.

06

#### Procure a partner.

Use an RFP or state-supported procurement pathway to review and select qualified developers aligned with your chosen approach.



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